Abstract

A computer software system and method of enhanced data collection, manipulation, and management of information that is to be contained on a database located on a central server. The method is performed via a software application running on one or more computer workstations located in one or more locations. The method is both expedited and simplified by providing powerful data manipulation and data generation routines that are executed during data entry or after the data is contained within the database. The method may also manage to track the status of each data item entered at the computer workstation, and also the current state of the item, which could be either online, offline, suspended, needs removing, or needs uploading. In addition, the method may also include a preset expiration mechanism. This mechanism is based on elapsed time, and will automatically change the state of any item from "online" to "offline" if no modifications are performed on the item during the defined time span. Finally, the method may also enable the data collection and manipulation process to expand over two or more sessions, replacing the current industry-standard online data collection methodology of accepting only completed data entry sessions in real-time.